REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments to the claims and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4-25 are currently pending in this application with claims 2 and 3 cancelled and claim 1 amended by the instant amendment, the limitations of claims 2 and 3 have been incorporated into claim 1. The examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 22-24 are allowed and that claims 8-21 contain allowable subject matter and would allowed if rewritten in independent form.

INVENTOR'S RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, it is believed that column 21 of Inoue demonstrates that the Home Agent and the packet Relay Device are indeed separate units. Inoue teaches that that the Home Agent is provided in a private network or a global network, while the Packet Relay Device is provided between two networks. Therefore, Inoue appears to teach that the units are separate nodes physically placed at different locations.

Even if the units are regarded as a single unit, it is believed that no arrangement or means are included therein which shortcuts a part of a transferring process to shorten the processing time. As best understood, Inoue merely discloses that even if a mobile terminal changes its address by moving from a private network to a global network, the Packet Relay Device only converts the addresses to enable the packet to reach the destination. Inoue fails to disclose or suggest a device or method for speeding up the processing time.

While on the column 21 of the disclosure of Inoue it is described that each of the Home Agent and the Packet Relay Device can be implemented in the form of a software package, the speed-up of the processing time cannot be realized by such a mere software implementation. In the present invention, a high-speed processing is realized by providing individual processors at

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the communication interface to perform routing operation and encapsulating operation usually performed by a single processor.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The office action rejects claims 1-7, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Inoue et al.

The amended claim 1 now includes the limitations of the original claims 2 and 3. While the Examiner has asserted that the limitations of the original claim 3 were disclosed by Inoue, the portion of Inoue relied upon by the Examiner state that the packet is converted into a packet having the source address GW-p. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Inoue (Fig. 6, column 12, lines 35-41) does not indicate that the GW-p is the address of the "output interface." An example of the binding information of the present invention mutually associating the home address, the care-of address, and the output interface is shown in Fig. 5. However, Inoue fails to disclose this feature.

Further, Inoue does not teach the ability of a device to skip a routing table lookup process by utilizing the information of the output interface as in the present invention.

Accordingly, the amended independent claim 1 is believed to be patentably distinguished over Inoue under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). The rejected claims 4-7 and 25 are also believed to be patentable at least because of their direct or indirect dependency from claim 1. Claims 8-21 which also depend from claim 1 are believed to be allowable therewith.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

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